

The City of Marion, South Carolina

SWAMP FOX SCENE



A FREE monthly news magazine for
the citizens and visitors of the Swamp Fox City

Volume 6, Issue 2

July 2016

Celebrate America -Celebration of Heroes- A July 4th Celebration

CELEBRATE AMERICA
4TH OF JULY
CELEBRATION OF HEROES
AT THE SWAMP FOX ENTERTAINMENT COMPLEX

A Community Celebration honoring veterans, armed service members, law enforcement & first responders.

SPONSORED BY:
MARION COUNTY COUNCIL
Mullins
Nichols
Sellers
Swamp Fox Entertainment Complex and the towns of Marion
Marion County ANIMAL SHELTER

The Swamp Fox Entertainment Complex, Marion County Council, Mayors of Marion, Mullins, Nichols and Sellers, Veterans Affairs, as well as the fire and police departments all invite you to participate in a July 4th event designed to bring the unity into our community. Celebration of Heroes is a salute to veterans, armed service members, law enforcement and first responders. All of these brave people are the backbone of our community and our country. Collectively, we feel they should be recognized on Independence Day, as these heroes put their lives on the line to fight for and protect our freedoms.

Celebration of Heroes will benefit the Marion County Animal Shelter, as proceeds will go to help the shelter grow and provide great care to the animals that desperately need it.

Marion County has the unique opportunity to showcase our unity and honor for those who serve us bravely. As a community, we must come together and embrace our diversity in order to grow and become an example to the rest of our state, and even the rest of the nation.

We do hope you will join us in celebrating our heroes with your family and friends on July 4th at the Swamp Fox Entertainment Complex!

4TH OF JULY CORNHOLE Tournament
\$30 REGISTRATION FOR 2 PERSON TEAM
REGISTRATION STARTS AT NOON
AT THE SWAMP FOX ENTERTAINMENT COMPLEX

1ST PLACE \$200
2ND PLACE \$100
3RD PLACE \$50

PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT MARION COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER

SPONSORED BY: SUNBELT ROOFING SERVICE

Williams Retires from City of Marion



Clifford Williams began working in the Street Department in 1990. According to his supervisor, Street Superintendent Ronnie Sanders, Clifford was a hard worker and a great asset to the department and the City. He took great pride in his work. His duties included trimming along the City's sidewalks, preparing flower beds, and decorating the City for Christmas and other holiday seasons. He never

complained, and was always willing to take on any additional tasks that were assigned to him. He retired from the City of Marion in May 2016.

Thank you, Clifford Williams, for your years of service to the City of Marion. Congratulations on your retirement!

Another Successful Fundraiser-Thank You!

HMRA enjoyed yet another successful annual meeting and fundraiser Friday, May 13th. Many thanks to those who attended, donated or purchased unique, one-of-a-kind items and gifts all to support HMRA programs!

REMINDER!

**City of Marion Business Licenses
Expired June 30, 2016
Please renew immediately!
2% Penalty begins on August 1st
10% Penalty begins on September 1st and
each month thereafter
Please call Pam Jones 843-423-5961 if
you have questions**

**Correction: Bennye's Sandwich Shoppe
was the Good Morning spotlight last
month not Baxley Hardware.**

South Carolina

Violent Encounters in Places of Worship
And Active Shooters in Today's World

Hosted by: Mullins Police Department

Special Thanks to Guest Instructors of the South Carolina Active Shooter Program



Location: CD Joyner Auditorium

When: July 17, 2016

Time: 6:00 PM

This class is for pastors, church security, LE, first responders, church workers, daycare personnel and any staff at the church

“Chaos, panic and fear can only be minimized - never eliminated - when it is preceded by preparation and planning.”

2017 Member Campaign Underway

If you haven't renewed your HMRA membership or would like to assist the HMRA Board in its endeavors to preserve and promote our beautiful town or just want to ensure that Marion's existence remains, now is the time. Visit www.theswampfox.org for membership details!

National Garden Week Proclamation

City of Marion Mayor Bobby L. Davis with officers of the Azalea Garden Club signed a Proclamation designating June 5-11, 2016 as National Garden Week. This year floral designs were placed in City Hall, the Marion County Library and the Marion Police Department, by the Azalea Club. The club serves Marion by working to improve and maintain our community, striving to make it a beautiful place to which to live and visit.

CITY NEWS!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Marion Chamber of Commerce announces Yard of the Month



Mabel Dozier of 910 Willcox Avenue has been awarded the Marion Chamber of Commerce Yard of the Month for June 2016. The Chamber is proud to recognize those in our community that work so diligently, and add so much to our community's unique character. Ms. Dozier will receive a Marion Chamber of Commerce Chamber Check in recognition of her honor.

NEED HELP?

Call City Hall, 843-423-5961, unless otherwise noted, and one of the following will be able to help you.

- Mayor Bobby L. Davis, (843) 423-5961, Ext. 21
- Alan Ammons, City Administrator & Building Official, Ext. 19
- Pam Jones, City Clerk, Ext. 10
- Patricia Brown, City Treasurer, Ext. 18
- Ainsley Sanders, Administrative Assistant, Ext. 11
- Elizabeth Ficik, Personnel & Purchasing Director, (843) 423-8614
- Vickie J. Nichols, Grant Writing & Publicist, Ext. 22
- Ann Jackson, Recreation Director, (843) 423-5410
- Dewayne Tennie, Police Chief, (843) 423-8616
- Cindy Barr, Training Officer (843) 423-8616
- Chris Smith, Captain (843) 423-8616
- Tony Flowers, Investigator (843) 423-8616
- Trey Cooper, Fire Chief, (843) 423-8602
- Chris McKenzie, Assistant Fire Chief (843) 423-8602
- Heather Evans, Municipal Court Clerk, (843) 423-8616
- Almeta Mullins, Secretary, (843) 423-8616

Downtown Banner Images for Sale

HMRA's 2015 Main Street banners represent what most people commonly think of when you mention Marion, South Carolina. Many of you have asked whether they were going to be available for sale as house or garden flags for personal consumption. Our first order has been placed and you should be seeing many of these images flying in neighborhoods soon.

How can I get hold of one, you ask? We're issuing orders to the printing company in bulk quantities of 25 until we get a feel as to what images seem to be most popular. We'd love to have them available for immediate purchase with our downtown member merchants once that happens. Join as a member of HMRA and receive the house flag (28x40) at \$30 and garden flag (11x16) at \$12, plus loads of other communications vital to Marion's revitalization. Find the order blank online at www.theswampfox.org or contact the office at (843) 423-9918.

Marion Foodie Meetings

Films are showed at different locations. Come out and see what the Arts Council has to offer. Hope to See you there!!!



The Swamp Fox Scene is the City of Marion's Free monthly newspaper for citizens and visitor's of the Swamp Fox City, Marion, South Carolina. Printed by Herald Multiforms in Dillon, city employees produce and distribute the newspaper.

The Marion Chamber and HMRA help pay printing costs.

A PDF version is available by e-mail or online. For more information about the newspaper, call Mayor Bobby L. Davis or City Administrator Alan Ammons at (843) 423-5961.

Grass, weeds and overgrown vegetation Ordinances

According to the City's CODE OF ORDINANCES : **Section 6-1009.1 through Section 6-1009.6**, grass, weeds, or other overgrown vegetation higher than one foot on average is declared to be a nuisance. The ordinance also states that any property owner or occupant of the property that allows the property to serve as a breeding place for trash and litter or as a fire hazard is to be declared a nuisance. Any individual who fails to resolve the issue within 10 days of notice of non-compliance will be guilty of a misdemeanor. The City may remove weeds, overgrown vegetation either by the use of a city crew or designated contractor and the cost will become a lien upon the property and collected in the same manner as municipal taxes. The cost of such action by the city is as follows: \$100 per lot, 1/2 acre or less; \$175 per lot, 1/2 acre to 2 acres; \$250 per lot, 2 acres to 5 acres; \$250 per lot, 5 acres and over, plus \$100 per hour; or any contractor costs incurred by the city to correct the nuisance lot in addition to the cost of mailings. If an owner or occupant of a property believes they are unable to pay to have the grass, weeds, or overgrown vegetation removed, he or she may ask the City of Marion for assistance.

A voucher program, administered by a seven-member committee, is available for reviewing requests for assistance by low-income persons.

For information about the voucher program, contact City Administrator Alan Ammons at 843-423-5961.

A-TEAM NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

"We are our neighbors keepers"

Contributed by: Dolly Boyer

Living in a good and safe neighborhood is a right and a responsibility. Most citizens believe they have a right to live in a good safe neighborhood. It is harder to get them to accept the responsibility part of this equation. We have attempted to grow our watch area and reach more neighbors. We asked members to choose a street and go door to door, inviting residents to meetings. We had door hangers available if no one was home. We also organized a canvas of the neighborhood on a Saturday afternoon. Only four or five members participated in these efforts. On behalf of our group, a meeting announcement runs in The Marion County News Journal weekly. The Mayor has graciously given us space in The Swamp Fox Scene monthly. While flyers, ads, articles and door hangers are all helpful tools, they are no substitute for a warm smile or handshake and personal invitation. Be the kind of "A Teamer" who never misses the opportunity to spread the word. The best way to strengthen our group is to be good neighbors who reach out to each other. It is not enough to just show up at meetings. We must be active and contribute more than negativity and criticism. To paraphrase a great President "Ask not what neighborhood watch can do for you, ask what you can do for your neighbors." Remember our best weapon against crime is community spirit and pride. For more information about neighborhood watch call Dolly @ 843-433-0941.

Niedenthal is Employee of the Month!!!



The City of Marion recognized firefighter Andy Niedenthal as the May 2016 Employee of the Month. Andy has been a full-time employee with the City of Marion Fire Department since 2014, and was previously employed by the department from 2006-2012. He is also a certified EMT and has been a member of the Marion Rescue Squad for many years.

Andy works hard for the community and the fire department. He and his wife Regina reside in Marion County.

The Mayor and Council recognized Andy Niedenthal for his dedication and contributions to the City of Marion at the June 14th Council Meeting.



No Senior Aerobics at Watsonia Recreation Department for the month of July

July 4th - Monday 10: a.m. - 10:00 p.m. Marion County Independence Day: "Celebrate America - Celebration of Heroes". At the Swamp Fox Entertainment Complex.

July 4th - Monday

City offices closed to observe Independence Day! Offices reopen at 8:00 a.m. on July 5th.

July 12th - Tuesday

6:30 p.m. City Council Meeting, Council Chambers.

July 15th - 21st (Friday - Thursday)

Softball State Tournaments
Belles – (13-15)
Pony Traditional – (11-12)
All games will be played at Green Street Sports Complex.

City of Marion's Visitor Center-OPEN



The City of Marion has opened a temporary Visitor's Center at the Marion Chamber Office (Depot) for travelers and residents to find out more of what's going on in and around the City of Marion. The center is not only for visitors, but check them out to find cool merchandise for you or for gift giving. The Historic Marion County Awakened Committee is responsible for this endeavor. If you'd like to volunteer your time as a hostess at the center, please contact HMRA or the Chamber Office, 843.423.3561.

Good Morning...Zeman Heating & Air & Electric!

Submitted by Kathy Stedman for HMRA

Oppressive heat and humidity are commonplace in the South. Not so commonplace any more is a business that dedicates itself to delivering highly reputable products and service. F. T. Zeman Electric and Refrigeration Company is just that. In operation since 1937, in Marion, Zeman's, as it is more commonly known, is a multi-generation family owned and operated business. Mr. Freddy single handedly developed and grew his business, now under the helm of his son Teddy, whose two older sons, Rick and Alan, also work for the company. Altogether, Zeman's has a work force of twelve people.



Specializing in heating and air conditioning, Zeman's also offers electrical services as well. Their total package of service includes the sale, service and installation, and repair of heating and air conditioning units for both residential and commercial use. With regular store and service hours Monday – Friday from 8am-5pm, Zeman's also fields after- hours calls for emergency service to include weekend coverage.



According to Teddy, the technologic advances in the industry have brought about change from manual circuit boards to printed circuit boards, thus necessitating ongoing in-service and training to stay current with upgrades in systems. When choosing heating and/or air conditioning units, customers rely on expert advice; however, customers need also consider the reputation of the company with which they are dealing, and look beyond purchase price for honesty, integrity, and trust.

F. T. Zeman Electric and Refrigeration Company is bonded and has been at 615 N. Main Street in historic downtown Marion since 1958. Teddy Zeman stands by the principles of honesty, his word that his company will do its best to accommodate your needs, and his belief in treating all customers with unequivocal courtesy and respect. Come by or call 843 423-2860 and see for yourself why Zeman's has remained a long standing tradition in our community.

Marion Police Department Gains New Officers



The Marion Police Department gained two new officers in June, Patrol officer Casey Elizabeth Henry and PFC Jonathan Ross Herring. PTL Henry graduated from the South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy on May 27, 2016. She is excited to begin her career in Law Enforcement. Becoming a police officer has been a dream come true for her. PFC Herring comes to the City from the Francis Marion University Campus Police Department. Henry and Herring are both residents of Marion County. Their employment helps us put more patrolmen on the street so we can better serve our citizens. The City of Marion, along with Marion Police Department, would like to welcome both of these officers.



Mayor's Monthly Beautification Award



Mayor Davis presented the May Beautification Award to Mr. Clifford Williams because of his hard work and dedication to the City of Marion. At the council meeting on June 14th, in appreciation for helping maintain the beauty of the City of Marion. Mr. Williams retired from the City of Marion in May 2016. Again Thank you, Clifford Williams, for your years of service to the City of Marion. Congratulations on your retirement!

City's Playgrounds

The following City of Marion playgrounds provide free fun and are open to the public:

Withlacoochee Park

Withlacoochee Ave - This park has a walking track and playground equipment. This site holds Marion's Tennis Courts.

Grice's Recreation Center

603 Gurley Street - The playground has been updated with new playground equipment. This site also has a basketball court behind the center and is near the walking track.

Tilghman Park

409 Montgomery Street - This is the City's location for T-ball and coach-pitched baseball. It also has slides, hobby horses, swings and a merry-go-round.

The Marion Recreation Department is currently taking Flag Football, Soccer, Tackle Football and Cheerleading signups for the fall season until August 5th. Flag Football is open to ages 4-6, Cheerleading and Football ages 4-12, Soccer ages 5-15 and Tackle Football 7-12. Please make sure you have a copy of the child's birth certificate at the time of registration; NO birth certificates are kept on file. Registration fee for both City and County is \$21 per child. Signups are accepted Monday thru Friday 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. If your child is playing tackle he must accompany parent when signing up. Please remember the Marion Recreation offices are now located at the Shannon Wilkerson Gym (behind the Marion School District). If you coached last year or didn't and you want to coach you must fill out Coaches app at Rec office. If you have any questions, please call 843 423-5410.

CDJ Aerobics

Aerobics classes are offered Monday thru Friday evening, from 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. at CD Joyner. Taught by Ms. Lillie Ann Sanders, the classes are \$30 per month. For information or details, call Recreation Department at 423-5410.

Check us out online!

The City of Marion Recreation Department is on Facebook and online. For information and updates on games scheduling, cancellation and pictures. Visit the www.marionsc.gov web site. Find us under "Residents" and then click on "Recreation". To Find us on Facebook, visit **Marion Recreation Department!**

POOL

The Pool is official open. Come and enjoyed the newly renovated pool. Certified Lifeguards on duty at all times. Pools hour are Monday – Friday 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. & 2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Saturday 1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Price is only \$1.00. Pool is closed on Thursday and Friday morning **ONLY** from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. for **summer camp students only**. Thursday & Friday the pool is open to the public from 2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Softball Tournaments 2016

We are proud to announce that The Marion Recreation Department will host the 2016 Softball State Tournaments July 15th – July 21st at Green Street Sports Complex. The tournament will be the Belles (13-15) and the Ponytails Traditional (11-12). Come out and give the girls, staff and coaches your support for all their hard work and dedication for getting them this far. Lets cheer them on. Congratulations Girls. Job well done.

Gym Hours for the Summer
Adults 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
School age kids 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

No Senior Aerobics at Watsonia Recreation Department for the month of July

Ping Pong Club

Don't forget that Marion Recreation holds a Ping Pong Club every Monday & Wednesday from 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm. You can come by on one of these days and freshen up on your ping pong skills, watch some games or learn how to play. For details, call 423-5410.

Senior Bingo

We offer Senior Bingo the on first & third Thursday of each month from 8:30 a.m. –9:30 a.m. at Watsonia Recreation. Bingo is FREE of charge and we welcome newcomers to come join in on the fun. We offer prizes for the winners and refreshments for you to enjoy while playing. We do have a 2 card playing limit. Come check us out and bring some friends to join in.

City rentals available

Need a place to have your class reunion, family reunion, church social, or to have a party? We have the perfect location for you, whether an outdoor or indoor event from our picnic shelter or our recreation and fine arts center. Anyone interested in these locations for their events should call Pansy Brown, 423-5410 for availability.



Congratulations to the Dixie Youth Angels District 1 Runner Up Marion All-stars. Marion Youth Dixie Darlings will be playing for the District 1 Championship June 23rd. The results will be in the August paper. Again congratulations to the Dixie Youth Angels for a job well done. Marion is proud of you!!

Softball State Tournament July 15th –21st Green Street Sports Complex.